

An Efficient Synthesis of 9-Oxaisotwist-8-en-2-ones.
Synthesis of Deoxysilydianin Methyl Ether

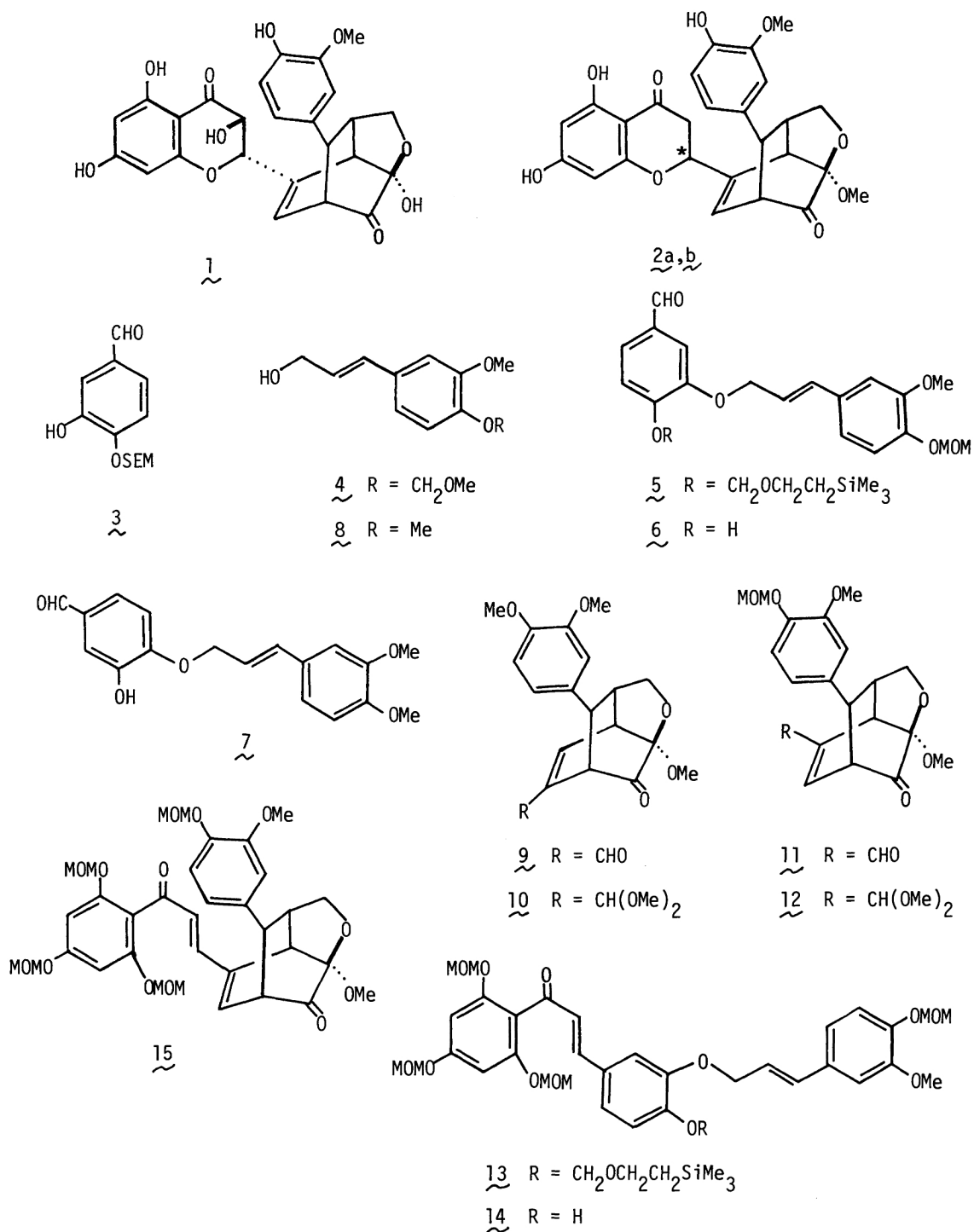
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Deoxysilydianin methyl ether has been readily synthesized by means of anodic oxidation of the corresponding phenol as a key step, indicating a general method for synthesis of 9-oxaisotwist-8-en-2-ones in high yields.

In connection with our structural and synthetic studies¹⁾ on bioactive natural products with a bicyclo[2.2.2]octane ring system, silydianin (1) as an antihepatotoxic agent,²⁾ which has been isolated from the fruits of *Silybum marianum* G., is quite interesting from view points of both molecular structure and physiological activity. In the present paper, we wish to describe a facile synthesis of deoxysilydianin methyl ether (2a) and its diastereoisomer (2b), both of which have the same 9-oxaisotwist-8-en-2-one ring system as that of silydianin (1), using electrochemical method.

When treated with 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxymethyl chloride (1.05 equiv.) in CH_2Cl_2 containing Pr_2^iNEt (1.25 equiv.) (room temp, 3.7 h, under argon), 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde was selectively converted into a desired ether (3)³⁾ in 85% yield. This ether (3) was further treated with an allyl alcohol (4) (1.5 equiv.) in THF containing Ph_3P (1.5 equiv.) and diethyl azodicarboxylate (1.5 equiv.) (room temp, 24 h, under argon)⁴⁾ to afford the corresponding allyl ether (5)³⁾ in 55% yield, which was then deprotected with $\text{Bu}_4\text{N}^+\text{F}^-$ (4 equiv.) in THF (45 °C, 30 h, under argon) to give rise to a desired phenol (6)³⁾ in 82% yield.

On the other hand, 3-acetoxy-4-hydroxybenzaldehyde, which was produced by acetylation of 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde [AcCl (1.1 equiv.)/ NaH (1.1 equiv.) in DMF (-55 °C - room temp, 5 h)], was readily converted into another phenol (7)³⁾ in 2 steps [1) $\underline{\underline{8}}/\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ (1.2 equiv.)/ $\text{EtOOCN}=\text{NCOOEt}$ (1.2 equiv.) in THF (room temp, 22 h, under argon) (30% yield); 2) K_2CO_3 (1.1 equiv.) in MeOH (room temp, 30 min, under argon) (84% yield)]. This phenol (7) was oxidized with $\text{Tl}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ (TTN) (1.5 equiv.) in MeOH (-26 - -20 °C, 3.7 h, under argon)⁵⁾ to afford two 9-oxaisotwist-8-en-2-ones (9 and 10)³⁾ in 43 and 36% yields, respectively. The latter (10) was quantitatively converted into the corresponding aldehyde (9) on treatment with 2M HCl in acetone (room temp, 40 min), indicating that the total yield of 9 was ca. 80% from 7. In the case of TTN oxidation of the phenol (6), however, any tricyclic compound has not been obtained. Probably, one of some reasons is that



6 has a methoxymethyl ether group labile to acid. Recently, a general synthesis of isotwist-8-en-2-ones from *o*-(3-butenyl)phenols using $\text{Pb}(\text{OAc})_4$ - AcOH has been reported by Yates *et al.*⁶⁾ However, their yields are low (20 - 30%). In addition, this Wessely oxidation, which is carried out under acidic conditions, can not be used for such an acid-sensitive phenol as **6**. Fortunately, we could synthesize two 9-oxaisotwist-8-en-2-ones (**11** and **12**) by means of electrochemical method, as follows.

When electrolyzed at a constant current [3.3 mA (+860 - 1100 mV *vs.* SCE; *ca.* 2 F/mol]⁷⁾ in MeOH - THF (3 : 2) using LiClO₄ as a supporting electrolyte, the phenol (6) was successfully converted into the tricyclic compounds (11 and 12)³⁾ in 12 and 79% yields, respectively.⁸⁾

Thus, the aldehyde (5) was reacted with 2,4,6-trihydroxyacetophenone methoxy-methyl ether in benzene containing Triton B (4 equiv.) (room temp, 24 h, under argon) to afford a condensation product (13),³⁾ in 84% yield, which was further treated with Bu₄N⁺F⁻ in THF (45 °C, 20 h, under argon) to give rise to a desired phenol (14)³⁾ in 87% yield. On electrolysis at a controlled potential (+950 mV *vs.* SCE; *ca.* 2 F/mol) in MeOH - THF (2 : 1) using LiClO₄ as a supporting electrolyte,⁷⁾ the phenol (14) was also converted into a 9-oxaisotwist-8-en-2-one (15),³⁾ in 82% yield, which was subjected to deacetalization with conc.HCl in MeOH (refluxing temp, 5 min) followed by cyclization using NaOAc (50 equiv.) in EtOH (70 °C, 2 h) to afford deoxysilydianin methyl ether (2a) and its diastereoisomer (2b) in 71% overall yields (relative ratio: 2a/2b = *ca.* 1).⁹⁾ Further synthetic study on silydianin (1) and related compounds are in progress using the 9-oxaisotwist-8-en-2-ones (2a and 15).

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References

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- 3) The spectral data for the new compounds were in accord with the structures assigned, and only selected data are cited: 3 as an oil: C₁₃H₂₀O₄Si [m/z 268.1100(M⁺)]; IR (film) 3400, 1670, and 1585 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ = 0.95(2H, t, J= 9 Hz), 3.77(2H, t, J= 9 Hz), 5.31(2H, s), 6.25(1H, br.s, OH), 7.1 - 7.5 (3H, aromatic), and 9.83(1H, s). 5 as an oil: C₂₅H₃₄O₇Si [m/z 474.2090(M⁺)]; IR (film) 1690, 1590, and 1510 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ = 0.94(2H, t, J= 9 Hz), 3.50(3H, s), 3.80(2H, t, J= 9 Hz), 3.87(3H, s), 4.78(2H, d, J= 6 Hz), 5.20(2H, s), 5.34(2H, s), 6.26(1H, dt, J= 16, 6 Hz), 6.8 - 7.5(6H, aromatic), 6.68(1H, d, J= 16 Hz), and 9.86(1H, s). 6: mp 124 - 125 °C; C₁₉H₂₀O₆ [m/z 344.1283(M⁺)]; IR (Nujol) 3350 (br), 1660, 1580, and 1500 cm⁻¹. 7: mp 135 - 137 °C; IR (Nujol) 3400, 1670, 1600, 1580, and 1510 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ = 3.91(3H, s), 3.93(3H, s), 4.80(2H, d, J= 6 Hz), 5.93(1H, br.s, OH), 6.23(1H, dt, J= 15, 6 Hz), 6.68(1H, d, J= 15 Hz), 6.8 - 7.5(6H, complex), and 9.83(1H, s). 9: mp 179 - 182 °C; C₁₉H₂₀O₆ [m/z 344.1276(M⁺)]; IR (Nujol) 1735, 1670, 1615, 1605, 1580, and 1515 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ = 2.90(1H, m), 3.44(1H, m), 3.63(3H, s), 3.65 - 4.00(2H, complex), 3.86(3H, s), 3.87(3H, s), 4.01(1H, d, J= 8 Hz), 4.33

(1H, dd, J= 3, 8 Hz), 6.47(1H, dd, J= 2, 9 Hz), 6.57(1H, d, J= 2 Hz), 6.72(1H, d, J= 9 Hz), 7.2 - 7.3(1H, m), and 9.43(1H, s). 10 as an oil: $C_{21}H_{26}O_7$ [m/z 362.1728(M^+ -CO)]; IR (Nujol) 1730, 1640, 1600, 1590, and 1515 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 2.94(3H, s) and 3.22(3H, s). 11: mp 105 - 106 °C; $C_{20}H_{22}O_7$ [m/z 374.1360(M^+)]; IR (Nujol) 1750, 1680, 1615, 1605, 1590, and 1515 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 2.81(1H, m), 3.43(1H, m), 3.47(3H, s), 3.49(3H, s), 3.60(1H, dd, J= 3, 7 Hz), 3.80(3H, s), 3.94(1H, d, J= 8 Hz), 4.16(1H, dd, J= 2, 5 Hz), 4.28(1H, dd, J= 4, 8 Hz), 5.14(2H, s), 6.43(1H, dd, J= 2, 9 Hz), 6.55(1H, d, J= 2 Hz), 6.97(1H, dd, J= 2, 7 Hz), 7.01(1H, d, J= 9 Hz), and 9.65(1H, s). 12 as an oil: $C_{22}H_{28}O_8$ [m/z 420.1778(M^+)]; IR (film) 1745, 1585, and 1515 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR δ = 3.30(3H, s) and 3.43(3H, s). 13 as an oil: IR (film) 1640, 1600, and 1510 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR δ = 0.95(2H, t, J= 8 Hz), 3.37(6H, s), 3.50(6H, s), 3.78(2H, t, J= 8 Hz), 3.87(3H, s), 4.74(2H, d, J= 6 Hz), 5.07(4H, s), 5.14(2H, s), 5.18(2H, s), 5.28(2H, s), 6.27(1H, dt, J= 16, 6 Hz), and 6.5 - 7.5(10H, complex). 14 as an oil: $C_{33}H_{38}O_{12}$ [m/z 626.2361(M^+)]; IR (film) 3400, 1630, 1600, 1580, and 1510 cm^{-1} . 15 as an oil: $C_{34}H_{40}O_{13}$ [m/z 656.2446(M^+)]; IR (film) 1740, 1645, 1600, 1590 (sh), and 1510 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 2.82(1H, m), 3.40(6H, s), 3.42 - 3.47(2H, complex), 3.48(3H, s), 3.49(3H, s), 3.55(3H, s), 3.81(3H, s), 3.82 - 3.83(1H, complex), 4.00(1H, d, J= 8.5 Hz), 4.31(1H, dt, J= 3.5, 8.5 Hz), 5.0 - 5.25(8H, complex), 6.28(1H, d, J= 5 Hz), 6.42(1H, dd, J= 2, 8.5 Hz), 6.53 - 6.55(3H, complex), 6.68(1H, d, J= 16 Hz), 6.98(1H, d, J= 8.5 Hz), and 7.12(1H, d, J= 16 Hz).

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- 6) P. Yates and H. Auksi, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, **1976**, 1016; T. S. Macas and P. Yates, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **24**, 147 (1983).
- 7) A glassy carbon beaker and a platinum wire tip were used as an anode and cathode, respectively.
- 8) Although base-catalyzed reaction between 11 and 2,4,6-trihydroxyacetophenone methoxymethyl ether has been carried out under various conditions, any condensation product has not been obtained.
- 9) These two diastereoisomers have been easily separated by preparative TLC, and their spectral data may be assigned to 2a and 2b, respectively: 2a: mp 255 - 256 °C; $C_{26}H_{24}O_9$ [m/z 480.1450(M^+)]; IR (Nujol) 3300, 1730, and 1710 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 2.75(1H, dd, J= 3, 17 Hz), 2.89(1H, m), 3.09(1H, dd, J= 12, 17 Hz), 3.22(1H, dd, J= 3, 7 Hz), 3.39(1H, m), 3.57(3H, s), 3.85(3H, s), 3.89(1H, dd, J= 2, 4 Hz), 3.97(1H, d, J= 8 Hz), 4.30(1H, dd, J= 3, 8 Hz), 5.31(1H, dd, J= 3, 12 Hz), 5.97(1H, d, J= 2 Hz), 6.01(1H, d, J= 2 Hz), 6.15(1H, d, J= 7 Hz), 6.68(1H, dd, J= 2, 8 Hz), 6.75(1H, d, J= 8 Hz), and 6.85(1H, d, J= 2 Hz). 2b: mp 252 - 255 °C; $C_{26}H_{24}O_9$ [m/z 480.1446(M^+)]; IR (Nujol) 3350, 1730, and 1700 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 2.81(1H, m), 2.87(1H, dd, J= 3, 17 Hz), 3.14(1H, dd, J= 11, 17 Hz), 3.23(1H, dd, J= 2, 7 Hz), 3.36(1H, m), 3.54(3H, s), 3.82(3H, s), 3.88(1H, dd, J= 3, 8 Hz), 3.95(1H, d, J= 8 Hz), 4.28(1H, dd, J= 3, 8 Hz), 5.29(1H, dd, J= 3, 11 Hz), 5.98(1H, d, J= 2 Hz), 6.04(1H, d, J= 2 Hz), 6.15(1H, d, J= 7 Hz), 6.46(1H, dd, J= 2, 8 Hz), 6.71(1H, d, J= 8 Hz), and 6.84(1H, d, J= 2 Hz).

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